



City of Hampton, VA

Meeting Minutes

City Council

22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
www.hampton.gov

Ross A. Kearney, II
Angela Lee Leary
Will Moffett

Christopher G. Stuart
Donnie R. Tuck
George E. Wallace

Molly Joseph Ward, Mayor

Staff:

Mary Bunting, City Manager
Cynthia Hudson, City Attorney
Katherine K. Glass, CMC, Clerk of Council

Wednesday, January 26, 2011

5:31 PM

Council Chambers, 8th Floor, City Hall

Call to Order / Roll Call

Molly Joseph Ward presided

Present: Ross A. Kearney, II, Angela Lee Leary, Will Moffett, Donnie R. Tuck, George E. Wallace

Absent: Christopher G. Stuart

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation – Councilwoman Angela Lee Leary

Mayor Ward welcomed everyone to the Spotlight program and asked Mr. Brian Marchese, Marketing Inc. Technology Coordinator, to come forward to begin the program.

Ceremonial Items - "Spotlight on Citizens"

1. 11-0013 Recognition of Volunteers - Hampton's 400th Anniversary Celebration

Mr. Brian Marchese began the program by reading Article 1, Section 2.4 of the Hampton City Code which was adopted in 1964. "The motto of the City shall be "E Praeteritis Futura", translated from Latin to English says, "Out of our past is born our future". He noted as we enter our 401st year as a City, we want to take this opportunity to shine the Spotlight on the many dedicated citizens who brought this motto to life with their hard work and dedication in helping the City celebrate its 400th Anniversary.

Mr. Marchese introduced Ms. Gwen Cumming, a native Hamptonian, who served alongside Councilman Moffett as co-chair of the 400th Anniversary Committee.

Ms. Cumming stated she actually moved here when she was three years old and therefore is not a native. She greeted the Mayor, members of Council, the City Attorney and the City Manager and stated she was a co-chairman along with Councilman Moffett on the 400th Anniversary Committee. She recognized many of the 400th Anniversary Committee members that were present and stated they are all dedicated citizens. She

said the dreams of many were realized with much hard work, devotion and passion, which helped to showcase the City's 400 year history. She said our celebration was successful and this recognition of citizens doing extraordinary work is important. She thanked the City, the staff and the School Division's staff for helping immeasurably during this great effort. She introduced co-chair of the 400th Anniversary Committee, Councilman Will Moffett.

Councilman Moffett stated the committee had a tremendous experience working together. He stated Ms. Cumming was an awesome co-chair and he thanked her for carrying on after May. He said she and the committee did a tremendous job and recognized some extraordinary City employees that participated in research and planning: Mr. John Eagle, Former Assistant City Manager, currently in the School Division, Mr. James Wilson, Director of Parks and Recreation, who he (Councilman Moffett) calls "Superman", Mr. Art Thatcher who served as Executive Director, Ms. Erin Black, Special Events Coordinator, Ms. Brianna Venner, Fats Oils and Grease (FOG) Coordinator, Ms. Sallie Grant-DiVenuti, Executive Director of the Hampton Convention and Visitor Bureau, and Ms. Mary Fugere, Director of Media and Community Relations. He said there was a tremendous effort by hundreds of City employees. He thanked all of the Council members, specifically Councilman Kearney who got him involved as co-chair. He thanked former Councilman Paige Washington who served as the liaison from City Council to the 400th Anniversary Committee. He gave special thanks to Councilwoman Leary for working on one of the committees. He thanked everyone on behalf of a grateful City.

Ms. Cumming recognized the culmination of much hard work made possible by a wonderful committee which the City Council selected. She expressed deepest and heartfelt gratitude to everyone present and those that were not present. She said many committees worked on different events; however, two committees deserve special commendations. First, she recognized the Legacy Committee and stated they have worked so hard for so long and are still working. She recognized the Chairman of the Legacy Committee, Mr. Calvin Pearson, and introduced the other committee members: Mr. Robert Shuford, Ms. Carolyn Hawkins, Ms. Dorothy Rouse-Bottom, Ms. Ann Tormey and Mr. Rufus Easter. Second, she recognized the Education Committee, Ms. Carla Mingee and her successor, Ms. Winette Jeffery. She also recognized Ms. Alma Dietz, co-chair, who was unable to attend. She asked all other committee members who were not specifically recognized, but present, to stand and be recognized. She recognized three committee members who have passed away: Ms. Harriet Storm, Mr. Bill Terrill and Mr. Henry O. Malone.

Ms. Cumming highlighted the 400th celebration activities. At midnight on New Year's Eve, St. John's Church rang its bell 400 times and no one called to complain. There were fireworks and band music in downtown Hampton. The Hunt for Hampton History moved from the Convention Center to the Hampton History Museum where over 3,000 people went through the galleries and an estimated additional 2,000 attended. Two Hundred Oral Histories were recorded. Two Seminars were held at the American Theater. Old Point National Bank had its Bank Dig where many artifacts were recovered. The Pirates came to Hampton to help celebrate. On the anniversary weekend July 9, 2010 – July 11, 2010, St. John's Church celebrated its 400th Anniversary. She noted St. John's Church history and the history of the City paralleled for many years. The Presiding Bishop of the United States came. There was a reception held at the Virginia Air and Space Museum where a cake featuring the replica

of St. John's Church was put on display and attracted over 2,000 people into the museum to see this cake made by the "Ace of Cakes" from Baltimore. The United States Post Office made a presentation to the citizens of Hampton and three postmarks were provided at no cost; one featured the pirates, one featured the 400th birthday, and the last one featured St. John's Church.

Ms. Cumming commended the Education Committee for its efforts in seeing that over 7,000 school children were given a tour of the History Museum, St. John's Church, the Emancipation Oak, and Fort Monroe. She noted these were guided tours by former teachers and History Museum staff members.

Ms. Cumming continued highlighting the 400th celebration activities. There were many books published not only by local authors, but also by scholars from universities and colleges focusing on our City. There were three sets of fireworks. WHRO produced a film called "From the Sea to the Stars" and it had its premier at the American Theater. Over 85 historical markers have been or will be placed in the City of Hampton. Thunder on the Bay, an Indian Powwow, was held at Buckroe.

Ms. Cumming stated a gift awaits the 400th Anniversary Committee members. An anniversary commemorative coin commissioned and distributed by the City Council will go to the members as well as a special video produced in their honor to help them remember their hard work. She ended by saying Hampton's 400th celebration was very special, and how fortunate we are to have done this.

Mr. Marchese showed the video Ms. Cumming referenced.

Vice Mayor Wallace noted there was an African American segment of our historical 400th Anniversary staffed by Ms. Pamela Croom, Retail Assistance Coordinator, under the leadership of former Councilmember, Dr. Turner Spencer. He said there were several forums conducted at the New American Theater at which Dr. Colita Fairfax, Hampton resident and Norfolk State University professor, and Dr. Robert F. Engs, author of a celebrated book about our community and Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania who now resides in Williamsburg, Virginia, both participated.

Mayor Ward recognized former Councilmember, Dr. Turner Spencer who was present in the audience.

Mr. Marchese invited Mayor Ward to the floor for a special presentation.

Mayor Ward stated she was honored to serve as Mayor during the 400th birthday celebration. She said when she was first elected, it did not take her long to determine where she would be on July 9, 2010. She said it was an honor and privilege to be a part of the celebration and she was grateful to all of the citizens who served, many of whom are her friends, have become her friends and are friends of the City.

Mayor Ward continued the highest honor that the City of Hampton can bestow on a citizen is called the Hampton Distinguished Citizen medal which has been given out very few times. Mayor Ward stated she was honored, on behalf of the City Council, to present this medal to the co-chairs of the 400th Anniversary Committee. She said Ms. Cumming and her mother were friends so she has known Ms. Cumming all her life. She said she has known Councilman Moffett for as long as she can remember and they

have worked together on many projects. She said it is with respect, honor, friendship and affection that she presents the medals to Ms. Cumming and Councilman Moffett.

Mayor Ward asked the recipients if they would like to say a few words. Councilman Moffett said Thank you, Thank you, Thank you. Ms. Cumming added to that her thanks.

Councilwoman Leary congratulated Ms. Cumming and Councilman Moffett on doing a spectacular job. She said they (Ms. Cumming and Councilman Moffett) may feel it was easy to a degree because of all of the wonderful volunteers they had working with them. She said she was especially pleased when she was asked by former Mayor Ross Kearney to serve as the representative for Council for the 2007 Jamestown 400th. She said she believes that was the time Ms. Black came on board and we had the opportunity to work with Mr. Michael Cobb and several other people and out of that was conceived the "Hunt for Hampton History" which has been a passion of hers (Councilwoman Leary) since day one. She said it has also been a passion for Ms. Black and everyone working in that particular effort. She said she wanted to say something about this special committee that she had the opportunity to work with. She said many of the individuals were not able to be present tonight, Ms. Joan Charles and Ms. Alma Dietz, and she (Councilwoman Leary) asked Ms. Mingee to write something for her to say because this committee did so many things and the variety was overwhelming at times.

Councilman Stuart arrived at 5:53 p.m.

Councilwoman Leary read Ms. Mingee's letter to Council.

First I think it is amazing that this committee formed a year after all the others and hit the ground running with so many creative goals. The Education Committee included great Hampton educators. Alma Dietz, Head of Social Studies Curriculum for Hampton City Schools, Winnette Jeffery who was a teacher before coming to the Hampton History Museum, David Bishop, a history teacher from Kecoughtan High School, Donna Simpson, a retired Hampton educator, Marie Smith, a retired Hampton educator, John Quarstein, Hampton Historian, Gaynelle Drummond, retired Hampton employee and Joan Charles, an author and former Hampton employee. Before our group formed, I had created the concepts such as the Hampton History Bus Tours and "It's All About Hampton!" Of course we did not get to accomplish that. Once presented to the committee, they took off with it. John and Winnette, with the help of Alma Dietz, created a tour that would help our students with SOL's in history. The tour linked Hampton with national history, beginning with Fort Monroe's Casemate Museum. I met with Paul Morando of the Casemate. It had been the goal of the Casemate to have more students visit the Casemate. This created the strengthening of Hampton's relationship with Fort Monroe. After the Casemate, Hampton Students stopped at the Emancipation Oak at Hampton University, then they were off to Hampton History Museum and St. John's Church. To accommodate the large number of students coming through the door, the Hampton History Museum needed more docents. Marie Smith generated twelve new docents, many of them retired teachers. A new manual designed to compliment the tour was created and the docents received special training for this project. Marie kept all the volunteers up to date with needs and changings. She had it working like a well oiled machine. Many of our students had no idea that Hampton played such an important role in our nation's history. The Hampton History Bus Tour changed the way they looked at their home City. This tour educated and generated pride in where the place that they

call home. This project generated positive press for the City of Hampton when the Daily Press wrote two articles. One concerning the overall projects of the Education Committee and specifically the Hampton History Bus Tours. Shortly after the seniors went on the bus tour, graduation was upon them. The Education and Community Committee had 400th Anniversary coins made which were presented to each student as they walked across the stage at their 2010 graduation. The community side of the committee was working with creating an event for the Buckroe community. The committee worked with Beverly Crandell, President of the Buckroe Improvement League. Our committee member helped create a revival of the Buckroe Beach Art Show which also included an area designated for Hampton City School art work. Our committee linked the Noblemen with the Improvement League. The Noblemen were responsible for vendors and entertainment. Not only did our committee merge these two groups, but also worked with Greg Hawkins Set Up Events. The Tidewater Triathlon started in Buckroe, but needed to include Fort Monroe. Our committee, Greg Hawkins and Councilwoman Angela Leary met with Colonel Reyes at Fort Monroe to create a course for the participants. The fort welcomed our committee with opened arms and once again, a new event was created for Hampton. The Buckroe Beach Arts in the Park and Beach Boogaloo had been born. The Triathlon became the Old Point Tidewater Triathlon. In its inaugural year, this event brought in 630 participants which was a record high for a first year or for many of his already established triathlons. Mr. Hawkins hopes to continue bringing this event back and to continue working with the City of Hampton. To assist communities with smaller events to celebrate their neighborhoods uniqueness and contribution to the City's heritage, a special grant program was created by our committee. Twelve thousand dollars was set aside. Communities could request up to a thousand dollars to help fund their event with a 400th anniversary theme. Many communities benefited from this as well as special projects that some groups were working on to celebrate Hampton's milestone birthday.

Councilman Leary addressed the members of the Education and Community committee indicating she and Councilman Tuck participated in one of the tours and it was an honor to work with the committee. She expressed that sharing Hampton's history with the members of the high schools' senior class will hopefully encourage the students to pursue their higher education and return to Hampton to help create a greater future. The students were able to touch history in the bricks of St. John's Church and at the Emancipation Oak where Mary Peake taught. She stated that she enjoyed watching the young people absorb Hampton's history and seeing their pleasure at graduation when they received coins commemorating Hampton's 400th anniversary. She thanked the committee members expressing that she had worked on many community projects but had never before with such a talented group. She also shared that one additional project remains, the Academic Wall of Fame, which citizens will hear more about later.

Councilman Tuck said he felt blessed to come on Council after all the hard work was done and he got to be the beneficiary of all of their (the committee) efforts. He thanked the committee for that. He said he was not familiar with everyone on the committee, but there are many faces he recognized. He said Ms. Venner was ubiquitous because there weren't very many places that he went that she wasn't there. He said she and Ms. Mingee were great representatives for the committee. He said she contacted him about going on the senior tour and he had his first opportunity to visit the Casemate and he was very impressed. He said he had never been there before and was just as delighted as the students who participated in that visit. He thanked the committee members for their sacrifice of time in organizing all of the celebration events. He said he recognized

that participating in the planning and execution of such events takes time and sacrifice and it takes committee members away from their families and other things they enjoy doing. He said he and many other citizens really appreciate their efforts. He thanked the committee members again.

Vice Mayor Wallace said there are some people in the audience that participated in the 375th Anniversary Celebration. He said he was one of them, and out of that process evolved the statue we now have in front of City Hall with a theme of "First from the Sea, First to the Stars". He said the precedent for Hampton participation and the citizens' exceptional performance was laid back even then 25 years ago.

Councilman Kearney said he was on the 375th committee also and he remembers how much work was involved. He thanked the entire 400th committee for taking part. He said it was a thankless job and everyone was so committed. He said this was started four years ago and Council had to get on board and do the funding and set aside everything, but the committee did all the work. He said he was proud as a member of Council and as a citizen of Hampton on how we reached out. He said what was done in reaching out to the young people was so impressive. He said there was a time when we were teaching US Government and we would board a bus and visit different sites in the City of Hampton. He said then they passed SOL's in Richmond and you are no longer allowed to go anywhere. He said those are the young people who will be serving on the next committee which is very important. He thanked Ms. Cumming and Councilman Moffett and said this was successful because of their leadership and all of the committee members. He thanked the former Councilmembers that took part including former Councilman Turner. He said it was a long process. He said the only thing he asked for when he was Mayor was to have fireworks because that brings the families out to watch.

Councilman Stuart said as a child he remembers going to parades with his parents when our Nation celebrated its 200th anniversary, and little did he know that that would be a youngster's birthday compared to Hampton's birthday. He said he would be remiss if he didn't mention Old Point National Bank and the incredible job they did by postponing the building of their headquarters as they discovered that the corner of King and Queen Street was critically important to the history of Hampton. He thanked them. He said as a person who has been a business person by necessity but a historian by education, he is honored to have been elected during the 400th anniversary of our fine City. He said we have the most talented group of citizens in the country. He thanked the committee for all of their efforts and time invested. He said our responsibility as a Council and as a citizenry is to build upon what has been done in the prior 400 years.

Mayor Ward extended thanks to everyone who worked on this. She recognized former Vice Mayor Joseph Spencer who was devoted to the 400th birthday. He even has Hampton license plates and was a proud supporter of the Anniversary celebrations. She also recognized former City Manager Mr. Jesse Wallace and Interim City Manager Mr. Jim Oliver and our current City Manager, Ms. Mary Bunting, who were all proud supporters along with the rest of the staff.

Mayor Ward requested Council give a standing ovation to all of our citizens and say thank you.

Mr. Marchese gave closing remarks. He stated what a legacy each of you has created. He said this began long before the 400th celebration this year. He said the Hunt for

Hampton History inspired us to share and collect our history, our stories, and our treasures for generations to come. The said the Hunt for Hampton History continues this year and will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2011, at the Hampton History Museum. As you know there is a specific theme attached to each year's event, and this year it will be The Civil War. He invited everyone to join us in continuing to share your history.

The Spotlight on Citizens program concluded at 6:10 p.m. Mayor Ward stated the Public Comment Period would begin at 6:15 p.m. after a five minute break.

Public Comment

The meeting resumed at 6:17 p.m.

Mayor Ward welcomed everyone to Public Comment period.

The Clerk read the protocol for the Public Comment period.

Rev. Marcellus Harris, 9 Kenilworth Drive, greeted the Mayor, Vice Mayor, members of Council, the City Attorney and the City Manager. He stated he was present representing the Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights and the Coalition wanted to pay special commendation to the members of Council for their outstanding service to this community and for their incredible sacrifice and work ethic that benefit the citizens of Hampton. He said Council's personal and professional sacrifices are things that the Coalition considers because Councilmembers deal with important matters such as land use, public parks, water, zonings and other meaningful and delicate deliberations that require so much time from their families and professional careers. He said the Coalition realizes the time it takes to read materials and sort through complicated documents to make decisions for all of the citizens of Hampton. He said the Coalition, under the leadership of Mr. Rudy Langford, wanted to give Councilmembers Certificates of Appreciation. He recognized the Mayor and Vice Mayor and asked them to take a picture with him once he gives them the certificates. He also asked Council to take a group picture once all members of Council had been recognized.

Rev. Harris stated Mayor Ward is the voice of the citizens of Hampton, the face of our City and the leader of the City Council and her work and words are very important and the Coalition believes she has done a fine job as Mayor, taking the City into the next century, which is important because it requires being familiar with technology and other things. He presented the Mayor with an appreciation award from The Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights.

Mayor Ward stated when she told Rev. Harris earlier that she was particularly delighted to see him, she had no idea he would be giving her an award.

Rev. Harris presented Vice Mayor Wallace with an appreciation award from The Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights. Vice Mayor Wallace thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Ms. Shaun Brown, PO Box 4, stated she had the distinct honor to provide Certificates of Appreciation to Councilwoman Leary and Councilman Tuck for their outstanding service to the citizens of Hampton. Councilwoman Leary and Councilman Tuck thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Mr. Tony Casparriello, 100 Wilderness Road, stated he was honored on behalf of The Coalition to present Councilman Will Moffett with a certificate in recognition of his outstanding service to the citizens of Hampton. Councilman Moffett thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Ms. Kimberly Barrett, PO Box 282, presented Councilman Kearney with a certificate, on behalf of the Coalition, for his outstanding service to the citizens of Hampton. Councilman Kearney thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Mr. Frank Bryant, 243 Pasture Lane, presented Councilman Stuart with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of The Coalition for his service to the City of Hampton. Councilman Stuart thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Mr. Gerry Banks, 2201 Laguard Drive, presented Ms. Katherine Glass, Clerk of Council, with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Coalition for her outstanding service to the citizens of Hampton. Ms. Glass thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Mayor Ward thanked the Coalition for the presentation and certificates. Mr. Rudy Langford stated he forgot to sign up to speak. Mayor Ward stated he would be allowed to speak after the other speakers that had signed up. Mr. Eddie Deerfield, the next speaker signed up to speak, stated Mr. Langford could speak ahead of him.

Ms. Glass noted Mr. Langford often thinks we don't give him enough time to speak. She explained to him the way the timer works is the warning comes at one minute, not thirty seconds; therefore he has a full minute to speak after the warning goes off and we want to make sure he has all of his time to speak.

Mr. Rudy Langford stated The Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights presented these certificates because they believe in Council and know that Council has earned them. He said he has a habit of not awarding or presenting people with anything unless they deserve it. He said the Coalition felt that they all deserve these certificates. He asked the City Attorney, Ms. Cynthia Hudson and the City Manager, Ms. Mary Bunting to come forward. He said these ladies have agreed to disagree with the Coalition and it has been well received by both sides. He said they are committed to their jobs and what they do and understand the Coalition is committed to what they do. He said they have a good working relationship and he is proud that these two ladies have worked very diligently on behalf of all of the citizens in the City. Mr. Langford presented Certificates of Appreciation on behalf of the Coalition for their outstanding service to the citizens of Hampton. Ms. Hudson and Ms. Bunting thanked the Coalition for the recognition.

Mr. Eddie Deerfield, 1515 Garrow Circle, greeted the Mayor, the members of Council, the City Manager and the City Attorney. He said on 12 January, I came before Council as the Executive Vice President of the Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights to ask if the Council could help in keeping the families in the Buckroe Trailer Park from getting evicted until June. In addition to me, the President of the Coalition and David Braunbeck also asked the Council to help in deferring to June or until it was warm. I wish to report tonight that the residents' attorney, Ms. Mitchell of the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia and the Coalition together had President Langford and I attend a meeting held on 15 January at St. Joseph's Marian Center to assure that the residents will have six months to evacuate their trailers as the Virginia Landlord and Tenant Act provides. At that meeting, Mr. Dean Short, speaking for the Landlords, agreed that the residents will

have until June 2011 to vacate the property. He will also assist them in moving their trailers, those that can be moved. The attorney and the Coalition intend to schedule a follow up meeting in the near future to assure that the agreement will be carried out, and to assist with any other problems that may arise. I ask that this presentation be put into the minutes in its entirety.

Rev. Harris reminded the Mayor of the group picture that needed to be taken. Mayor Ward asked if it would be okay to take the picture at the end of the meeting since there were only a few more people signed up to speak.

Mr. George Baisley, 17 Michelle Drive, greeted the Mayor, members of Council, the City Attorney and the City Manager. He stated the budget will be coming up shortly and he wants to make sure Council remembers the senior citizens and gives them a little bit more wages they can earn before they have to pay all of their real estate property tax. He said he called Ms. Bunting regarding the fact that at the present time there is no representative in the State because the Honorable Mr. Thomas Gear decided to quit and we are going to have an election on March 8th and he asked the people that conduct the voter registration how much will it cost us to do the election come March 8th and the lady didn't know. He asked why don't we not bother having an election and let the Governor appoint somebody to take Tommy Gear's place. He said he called the Governors office and asked why they couldn't appoint a person to take Tommy Gear's place and the person he spoke with said it was against the constitution. We have to elect someone to take Mr. Gears place. He said but there is only one person running and we will waste a lot of money to have a special election to elect one person, but the person said he couldn't help that and the constitution says we must have an election. He said the next person he is going to call will be Senator Mamie Locke to see if a member of the Senate or House of Representative quits can we have the Governor appoint somebody so he can have a representative in Richmond. He said he understands Mr. Gear had to quit due to health problems.

Mr. Edwin Boone, 48 Snow Street, greeted the Mayor, the members of Council, the City Manager and the City Attorney. Mr. Boone said it seems that one of our Council members has taken all the credit for the Buckroe Trailer Park residents being able to stay until June when he was not the one who brought it to the attention of the Council originally. This was brought up at the January 12th meeting by an organization in Hampton. This is not ethical to take credit for something that was already suggested. It was good that he had his staff look up the law and put it out there, but he should have included the organization also. At the last Council meeting, I stated that I had put in a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to show me the ordinance where a member of Council has no right to answer the public when asked a question. I received no response to this request, so there must not be a law stating this. Therefore, the public has the right to come before Council to ask an individual member a pertinent question and expect an answer immediately. The election is coming up in May 2012 which is only 16 months away. The public needs to get informed of those Councilmembers who voted against the public's wishes on major issues like Buckroe, the Courthouse and the new parking garage, especially the leaders of that group. It is time to put the voting records out there and this will happen from the minutes of Council meetings which will represent the facts and the truth. Now that we have the business license tax increased from \$30 to \$50, do you think that when the budget comes up that we can have a boat tax? How can we stop the Procurement Office from continuing to give contracts to people outside the City and not give to the minorities and women in Hampton? The millions just leave

Hampton and no one says or does anything to stop it, thus far, business as usual. I request this presentation to be put in the minutes in its entirety. Thank you.

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Molly Joseph Ward
Mayor

Katherine K. Glass, CMC
Clerk of Council

Date Approved by Council: _____



State Coalition for Justice for Civil Rights

P.O. Box 282
Hampton, Virginia 23669



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Dr. Marcellus Harris,
Vice President
Eddie Deerfield, Executive VP
Dr. Beatrice Darden, Secretary
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Marvin Brinkley
Charlotte, NC- Hythia Evans
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Atlanta, GA -Cheryl Cherry
St. Louis, MO - Edmona McNeil

City of Hampton Council Meeting 26 January 2011

Mayor Ward, Council Members, Ms. Bunting, Ms. Hudson;

My name is Eddie Deerfield and I reside at 1515 Garrow Circle. On 12 January I came before Council as Executive Vice President of the Coalition For Justice For Civil Rights to ask if the Council could help in keeping the families in the Buckroe Trailer Park from getting evicted until June. In addition to me, The President of the Coalition and David Braunbeck also asked the Council to help in deferring to June or until it was warm.

I wish to report tonight, that the residents Attorney, Ms. Mitchell of the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia and the Coalition together had President Langford and I attend a meeting held on 15 January at St. Joseph's Marian Center to assure that the residents will have six months to evacuate their trailers as the Virginia Landlord and Tenant Act provides. At that meeting, Mr. Dean Short, speaking for the landlords, agreed that the residents will have until June 2011 to vacate the property. He will also assist them in moving their trailers. (Those that can be moved).

The Attorney and the Coalition intend to schedule a follow up meeting in the near future to assure that the agreement will be carried out, and to assist in any other problems that may arise.

I ask that this presentation be put into the minutes in its entirety.
Thank you.

Eddie Deerfield
Executive Vice President

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HAMPTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 26, 2011

Good evening Mayor Ward, Council Members, Ms. Bunting, and Ms. Hudson.

My name is Edwin Boone and I reside at 48 Snow Street.

It seems that one of our Council Members has taken all the credit for the Buckroe Trailer Park residents being able to stay until June when he was not the one who brought it to the attention of the Council originally. This was brought up at the January 12th meeting by an Organization in Hampton. That is not ethical to take credit for something that ^{was} already suggested. It was good that he had his staff look up the law and put it out there, but he should have included the organization also.

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Now that we have had the Business License tax increased from \$30.00 to \$50.00, do you think that when the budget comes up that

We can have a Boat Tax? How can we stop the Procurement Office from continuing to give contracts to people outside the city, and not give to the minorities and women in Hampton? The millions just leave Hampton and no one says or does anything to stop it. Thus far," Business as usual".

Thank you
Edwin Boone

I request this presentation be put into the minutes in it's entirety.